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27 November 1965

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
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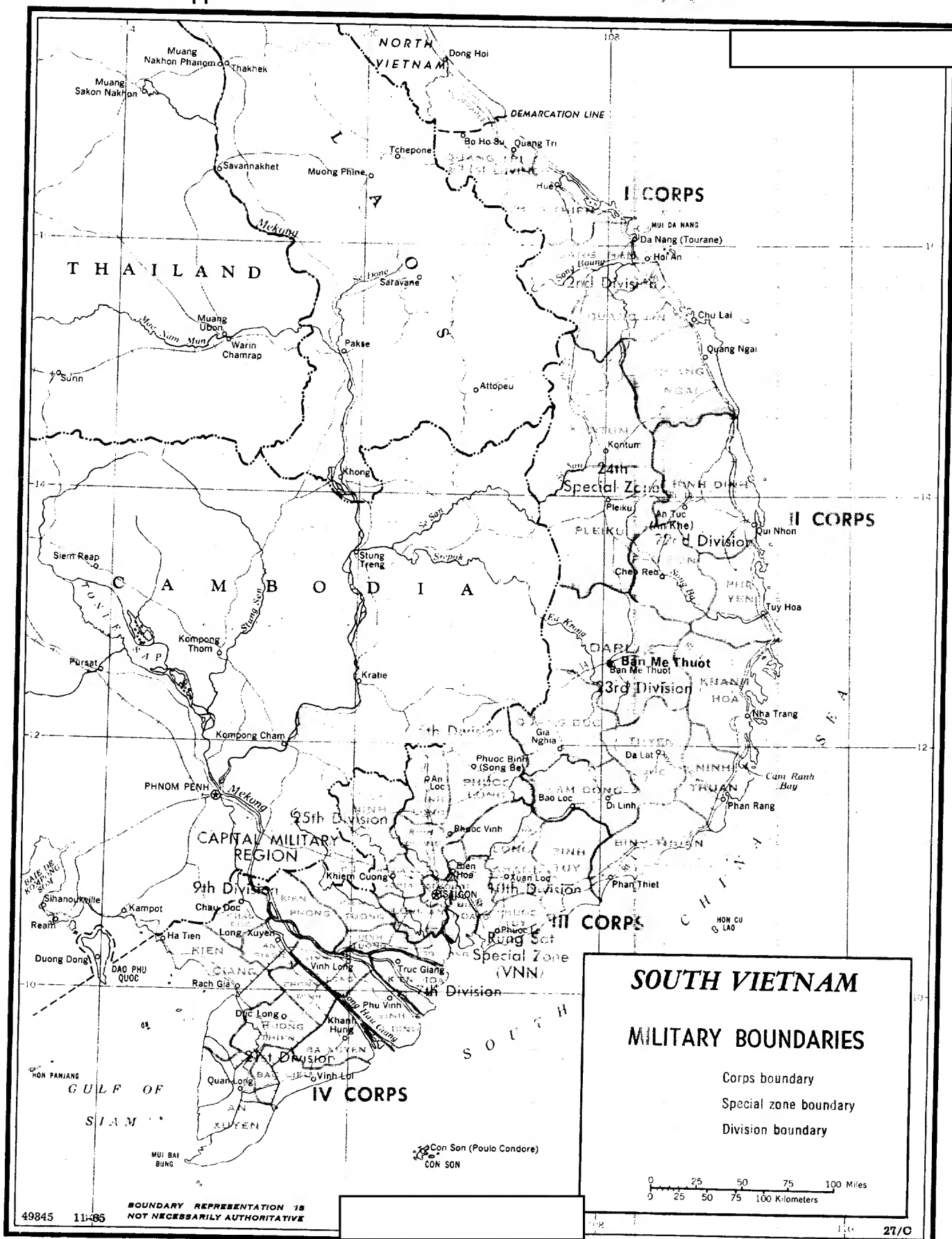
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*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EST)

The Military Situation in South Vietnam: US First Cavalry Division troops have begun to withdraw from their operational area in western Pleiku Province. Contact with Communist forces there has been sporadic for the past several days.

South Vietnamese airborne troops have completed their withdrawal from the area with final casualties of 24 killed and 55 wounded. Viet Cong casualties were 270 killed by body count and 11 captured.

A search operation being conducted by Vietnamese government paramilitary forces near Ban Me Thuot in Darlac Province has thus far resulted in 22 Viet Cong killed and four captured. There has been no report of government casualties.

On 25 November, an unknown number of Viet Cong attacked a Regional Force company in Binh Dinh Province, inflicting casualties of 27 killed, 16 wounded, and 15 missing. The enemy force, whose losses were unknown, also seized 67 weapons and two radios.

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North Vietnamese MIGs have again tried unsuccessfully on 26 November to down US aircraft. Four and possibly six MIGs attacked two US RF-101 Voodoo aircraft on a photorecon mission northeast of Yen Bai. They were trailing them by about 4,000 feet when they opened fire with machine guns. The US aircraft broke sharply to the left and descended to 200 feet and the MIGs did not pursue them.

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Indonesia: The army's anti-Communist campaign continues unabated.

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The army commander in South Celebes announced yesterday that the PKI and its affiliates in his area had been dissolved. Similar announcements had already been made in West Java and Molucca, and a pattern of piecemeal dissolution of the party's various branches seems in the making. Both the army and Sukarno, who appears to have acquiesced in these announcements, may hope that this gradualist approach will limit adverse reaction from Moscow, on whom the army is dependent for supplies and equipment.

The continuing political uncertainty in the archipelago has had an adverse effect on the economic situation, with rice in short supply and inflation rampant. The dollar now sells unofficially for 34,000 rupiahs, roughly one-third above the price a week ago.

The cabinet, at Sukarno's behest, announced early this week that it would institute a series of sweeping economic decrees designed primarily to control imports. It is unlikely that these decrees will have any immediate positive effect on the present situation. The government's announcement has in fact added to the uncertainty and confusion in the business community.

[Army officials are attempting to buy rice abroad, and if they are successful in procuring and distributing this staple it would help them retain popular confidence.

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Rhodesia-Zambia-UK: [The chances of a severe disruption of the delicate relations between Zambia and Rhodesia appear to be increasing.]

[White Rhodesian railroad engineers in Livingstone, Zambia, went on strike earlier this week after their recreation club was closed and utilities cut off. Utilities have been restored, but the strike apparently continues and could interfere with operation of the vital rail link between Zambia and Rhodesia.]

[Yesterday an explosion along the Zambian part of the power line from the Kariba hydroelectric station in Rhodesia temporarily cut off power to a portion of Zambia's copperbelt.]

[The strike and the explosion could provoke further racial incidents and are likely to provide fuel for Zambian militants. They have been pressing Kaunda for more drastic action against Rhodesia, even at the risk of provoking crippling economic reprisals from Salisbury. Kaunda in turn will probably point to these incidents in a renewed request for UK troops to guard the Kariba complex, which supplies most of Zambia's electricity.]

[London still has doubts about the wisdom of an oil boycott on Rhodesia. UK officials told the US Embassy in London that an embargo would damage Zambia more than Rhodesia, although adequate short-term supplies could be airlifted to Zambia.]

[The British believe that even in the unlikely event of a full blockade, Rhodesia would not be damaged for at least a year because of probable South African assistance. The officials added, however, that even if an oil embargo is judged technically infeasible the UK might back it because of political considerations.]

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[The US Consulate in Lorenzo Marques has been informed that a four-month supply of crude oil for Rhodesia is stockpiled in Mozambique, and that Portuguese oil companies may be considering further assistance to the Rhodesians in the event of an oil embargo.]

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NATO: [Signs of increased caution are evident in the positions of several of the Alliance members on the nuclear sharing problem.]

[The US Embassy in Bonn believes the German position may be evolving in the direction of a "compromise." In the beginning, the nonnuclear powers would participate only in nuclear targeting and contingency planning. Establishment of an Alliance nuclear weapons system would come in a second phase.]

[The British have indicated they intend to advocate in the meeting of the NATO special committee of defense ministers in Paris today that emphasis be placed on consultation. Although they are willing to commit existing nuclear forces to some kind of collective system, they would like to postpone--if not avoid entirely--any new weapons system.]

[Belgium's foreign minister feels strongly that any ANF/MLF project should be put off indefinitely. According to his chef de cabinet, Spaak not only is worried about the side effects on the EEC crisis of any move at this time, but feels that a confrontation in NATO over German participation in nuclear arrangements would be engaging the French on the "worst possible ground."]

[According to a high-level French Foreign Ministry source, France will formally announce its opposition if the special committee recommends establishment of a select nuclear committee with German participation. To emphasize the French position, the official repeated De Gaulle's earlier private threat that France would withdraw from NATO immediately and totally if Germany were included in any arrangement governing the use of nuclear weapons.]

[In New York, US disarmament negotiator Foster has had no success in convincing Tsarapkin that

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contemplated Alliance arrangements will preclude independent German access to nuclear weapons. Tsarapkin told Foster that this was the "only objection" Moscow had--otherwise, it would be "prepared at once to join with the US in promoting a nonproliferation treaty along the lines of the Soviet draft."

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NOTES

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[Redacted]

Dahomey: [Moderate Vice President Ahomadegbe is spearheading a move to oust left-leaning President Apithy. Dahomey's ruling party, probably at Ahomadegbe's urging, on 25 November voted for Apithy's exclusion from the party. Ahomadegbe is apparently setting the stage for a new political alliance with pro-French former president Maga, whom he recently released from detention. Although Apithy does not have a broad base of public support, his ouster could lead to disturbances in the capital area, where he is strongest.]

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[Redacted]

Congo: [Leopoldville remains calm, and Premier-designate Mulamba hopes to announce his government list today. Present indications are that the list will contain several familiar names, including ex-premier Adoula and former foreign minister Bomboko. Strong man Victor Nendaka may have switched sides with sufficient adroitness to be included, perhaps in his old post of interior minister. Cleophas Kamitatu, who was foreign minister in last month's proposed Kimba government and with Nendaka led the leftward drift in foreign policy, reportedly will not be included. Tshombé's future role remains unclear. General Mobutu, in a talk with a US Embassy official, emphasized that he will be heavily dependent on US advice and assistance.]

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India-Pakistan: Both countries have agreed to U Thant's appointment of Chilean Brigadier General Marambio as his agent in attempting to secure the withdrawal of troops from territories captured during the August-September fighting. Nevertheless, prospects for a speedy disengagement are clouded by fundamental disagreements over the order in which various areas are to be vacated. The presence of a UN mediator probably will reduce the danger that the sporadic clashes along the Kashmir cease-fire line and India-Pakistan border will lead to renewed warfare.

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The Director of the Budget

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The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Under Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of Defense

The Secretary of Defense

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)

The Assistant Secretary of Defense

The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff

Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy

Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

U.S. Rep., Military Committee and Standing Group, NATO

Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

Commander in Chief, Atlantic

The Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

The Director, The Joint Staff

The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

The Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

The Department of Justice

The Attorney General

The Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Director

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The Administrator

The Atomic Energy Commission

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The Director

The United States Information Agency

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The National Indications Center

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